

Appl. No. 09/557,822

Response to Amend of 9/7/04

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-21 (cancelled).

22. (currently amended): An internet-based system for ordering freight services from any internet connected computer comprising a server computer system which includes:

- (i) one or more pages which, when viewed on ~~[a user computer system]~~, any internet connected computer allow a user to enter a freight delivery service request including at least source and destination zip codes, class, weight and accessorial services;
- (ii) one or more pages which, when viewed on ~~[a user computer system]~~ any internet connected computer, allow a user to schedule a shipment including at least a shipping and receiving address, a ready date, invoice information and member discount information; and
- (iii) one or more pages which, when viewed on ~~[a user computer system]~~ any internet connected computer, permit a user to review status of shipments made by the user;
- (iv) one or more pages which, when viewed on any internet connected computer, permit a user to obtain actual quotes for shipping from a plurality of carriers.

23. (previously presented) The internet-based system of claim 22 where the server computer system further comprises one or more pages which, when viewed on a user computer system, allow the printing of a bill of lading.

24. (currently amended): The internet-based system of claim 22 where the server computer system further comprises one or more pages which, when viewed on ~~[a user computer system]~~ any internet connected computer, permit the user to create an invoice to send to another party.

25. (previously presented): The internet-based system of claim 22 further comprising:

 a database of accessorial services offered in conjunction with a freight shipment process, said freight shipment process including quoting, ordering and completing said shipment; and

 a web site with a plurality of web pages, one or more of said web pages sequentially displaying a plurality of accessorial services and requiring the user to address each of said accessorial services offered to accept or decline each of said accessorial services before completing said freight ordering services.

26. (currently amended): An internet-based system for ordering freight services comprising a server computer system which includes:

 at least one page which, when viewed on a user computer system, allows a user to enter a freight delivery service request including at least source and destination zip codes, class, weight and accessorial services;

 a database of accessorial services offered in conjunction with a freight shipment process, said freight shipment process including quoting, ordering and completing said shipment; ~~[and]~~

at least one page which, when viewed on any internet connected computer, permits a user to obtain actual quotes for shipping from a plurality of carriers; and,

at least one page sequentially displaying a plurality of accessorial services and requiring the user to address each of said accessorial services offered to accept or decline each of said accessorial services before completing said freight ordering services.

27. (previously presented): The internet-based system of claim 26 where the server computer system further comprises at least one page which, when viewed on a user computer system, allows the printing of a bill of lading.

28. (previously presented): The internet-based system of claim 26 where the server computer system further comprises at least one page which, when viewed on a user computer system, permits the user to create an invoice to send to another party.

29. (currently amended): A method for managing an internet-based system for ordering freight services comprising the steps of:

presenting at least one internet page to a user to collect initial shipment information including class, weight, source and destination;

presenting at least one internet page to the user to display cost information based on said initial shipment information;

presenting at least one internet page to the user to schedule a shipment based on source and destination information, said initial shipment information and said cost information;

presenting at least one internet page to the user to allow said user to schedule a ready date and time of shipment;

presenting at least one internet page to allow the user to create a bill of lading.

30. (previously presented): The method of claim 29 further comprising the step of presenting at least one internet page to the user to allow said user to track said shipment.

31. (previously presented): The method of claim 29 further comprising the steps of:

maintaining a database of accessorial services offered in conjunction with a freight shipment process, said freight shipment process including quoting, ordering and completing said shipment; and

presenting at least one page sequentially displaying a plurality of accessorial services and requiring the user to address each of said accessorial services offered to accept or decline each of said accessorial services before completing said freight ordering services.

32. (new) The method of claim 29 further comprising the step of choosing at least one carrier from a plurality of carriers.

33. (new) The method of claim 32 wherein said step of choosing at least one carrier is completed after viewing cost estimates from a plurality of carriers.

34. (new) The method of claim 28 wherein said internet-based system generates custom management reports.

35. (new) The method of claim 28 wherein said internet-based system allows a user to

access a shipping log of a plurality of prior shipments.

36. (new) The method of claim 28 further comprising the steps of creating at least one master account and at least one sub-account of said master account.

37. (new) The method of claim 28 further comprising the step of printing custom invoices for a plurality of customers.

38. (new) An internet-based system for providing automated shipping services comprising:

a server computer supplying a plurality of web pages;

a user computer running standard browser software;

a network connecting said server computer to said user computer;

a database on said server computer containing shipping services information from a plurality of shippers;

said server, on at least one of said web pages, allowing said user to compare costs of shipping between at least two different shippers for a specific shipping order, said specific shipping order specified by said user as at least a point of departure and a destination;

said server, on at least one of said web pages, accepting a command from said user to use one of said shippers to perform said specific shipping order.

39. (new) The system of claim 38 further comprising said server completing said

shipping order to said one of said shippers.

40. (new) The system of claim 38 further comprising said server causing a bill of lading to be printed.

41. (new) The system of claim 38 further comprising said server producing a management report containing at least one entry relating to said shipping order.

42. (new) The system of claim 38 further comprising said server maintaining a master account for said user.

43. (new) The system of claim 42 further comprising said server maintaining at least one sub-account related to said master account.